

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-39 (Canceled)

40. (Previously presented) An isolated protein selected from the group consisting of a canine B7-2 protein and a feline B7-2 protein.

41. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said protein lacks at least a portion of the transmembrane domains.

42. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of at least 150 nucleotides in length that hybridizes under stringent conditions with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:32 and SEQ ID NO:35.

43. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 42, wherein said protein is capable of binding a CTLA4 or CD28 protein or is capable of stimulating T-cells.

44. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising an at least 150 contiguous nucleotide region identical to a 150 contiguous nucleotide region of a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30 and SEQ ID NO:33.

45. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence at least about 95% identical to a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30 and SEQ ID NO:33, wherein said protein is capable of binding a CTLA4 or CD28 protein or is capable of stimulating T-cells.

46. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30 and SEQ ID NO:33.

47. (Previously presented) An isolated protein of at least about 50 amino acids in length, wherein said protein comprises an at least 50 contiguous amino acid region identical in sequence to a 50 contiguous amino acid region from an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:31 and SEQ ID NO:34.

48. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 47, wherein said isolated protein comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 85% identical to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:31 and SEQ ID NO:34, wherein said isolated protein is capable of binding a CTLA4 or CD28 protein or is capable of stimulating T-cells.

49. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 47, wherein said protein comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:31 and SEQ ID NO:34.

50. (Previously presented) The isolated protein of Claim 47, wherein said protein consists an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:31 and SEQ ID NO:34.

51. (Previously presented) A therapeutic composition comprising the isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said composition, when administered to an animal, regulates T-cell mediated immune responses in said animal.

52. (Previously presented) The therapeutic composition of Claim 50, wherein said composition comprises a component selected from an excipient, an adjuvant or a carrier.

53-59. (Canceled)

60. (New) The isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule consisting a nucleic acid sequence at least about 95% identical to a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30 and SEQ ID NO:33, wherein said protein is capable of binding a CTLA4 or CD28 protein or is capable of stimulating T-cells.

61. (New) The isolated protein of Claim 40, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule consisting a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30 and SEQ ID NO:33.

62. (New) The isolated protein of Claim 47, wherein said protein consists of an at least 50 contiguous amino acid region identical in sequence to a 50 contiguous amino acid region from an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:31 and SEQ ID NO:34.

63. (New) The isolated protein of Claim 47, wherein said isolated protein consists of an amino acid sequence at least about 85% identical to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:31 and SEQ ID NO:34, wherein said isolated protein is capable of binding a CTLA4 or CD28 protein or is capable of stimulating T-cells.

64. (New) The isolated protein of Claim 47, wherein said protein consists an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:31 and SEQ ID NO:34.